

BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CVII.

THE hundred and sixth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of May, 1904.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, F. D. DREWITT, M.D., F. GILLETT, H. GOODCHILD, E. HARTERT, Ph.D., G. E. LODGE, E. S. MONTAGU, E. NEALE, M. J. NICOLL, T. PARKIN, F. G. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., D. SETH-SMITH, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D. (*Editor*), C. SWINHOE, W. B. TEGETMEIER.

Visitor: V. R. BALFOUR-BROWNE.

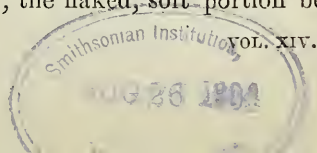
MR. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited a remarkable parti-coloured egg of the Common Pheasant; also an extraordinary hour-glass-shaped egg, brown in colour, and believed to be that of a Grouse, in spite of the fact that it was little more than an inch in length. It was probable that the peculiar shape of this egg was due to constriction while in the oviduct and not to the fusion of two separate eggs.

THE HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, Ph.D., sent for exhibition a remarkable new Pigeon, which he described as follows:—

MICROGOURA, n. gen.

Cere naked to the forehead, the naked, soft portion being

[May 30th, 1904.]



about 22 to 23 mm. long from the end of the hard *rhamphotheca* to the feathering on the forehead, and about 13 mm. wide at base of forehead. Short, velvety feathers covering the lores, lateral bases of both mandibles, upper chin, and a line across the forehead. Sides of head and throat very sparsely feathered. A large, flat crest consisting of feathers with segregated barbs, rising from the occiput. Remiges hard and stiff. Tail short, rounded, consisting of twelve rectrices. Feet and legs naked up to just above the heel-joint; the metatarsus covered in front for about two-thirds with distinctly separated scutes, but the upper third smooth like the sides of the metatarsus, apparently soft in life. Habits terrestrial. The type was:—

MICROGOURA MEEKI, n. sp.

♂ ♀ *ad.* Bill chalky blue, tip black, lower mandible reddish. Short velvety feathers on chin, lores, sides of mouth, and a line across the forehead, black. Top of head and scanty feathers on sides of same pale greyish blue; crest-feathers pale bluish grey. Chest and mantle bluish grey. Lower back and rump greyish brown; upper tail-coverts dark brown with purplish and greenish reflections; primaries drab-brown, their inner webs with a greyish tinge; secondaries dull cinnamon, the inner webs more or less greyish brown. Wing-coverts greyish brown. Rectrices dark purple. Breast and abdomen bright rufous-cinnamon. Under tail-coverts glossy brownish black, with cinnamon edges. Under wing-coverts bright cinnamon. Iris dark brown; feet purplish red. Wing, ♂ 195 to 197, ♀ about 180 to 190 mm.; tail 100 to 105, bill from base of cere 34 to 35, metatarsus 60, middle toe with claw 40, hind toe with claw about 13 mm.

♀ like ♂, but the wing a little shorter.

Hab. Choiseul Island, Solomon Islands.

Type: ♂, Choiseul, 7. i. 1904. No. A. 1110, Tring Museum. Named after its discoverer, Mr. A. S. Meek.

The egg is cream-coloured and measures 43 × 31.3 mm.